葬送のフリーレン
FRIEREN
Chapter 128 The Special Forces of Magic
Where are we?
There isn't a single soul travelling through these parts.
We're near a former Imperial plaza.
This entire region is becoming a no-entry zone for a land readjustment project.
Any chance we're being cornered?
That's a rhetorical question.
And I don't think there will be any escape at this rate.
Four-Eyes.
I'm aware that you are the prudent type,
and I also know that you will try to help me escape.
Is that right?
In that case, you may as well keep in mind as well that I despise unnecessary chit-chat.
Four-Eyes, you see—
Do I have to tell you to shut up to get it through your thick skull?
I wasn't born within the Empire,
so I don't know much about the Special Forces of Magic~
Therefore, elaborate.
Or else I cannot dread them with you.
The Special Forces of Magic are special forces of the Imperial Army comprised of mages—
In layman's terms.
...They're the Empire's most powerful mages.
And why must us first-class mages fear them?
Certainly, with first-class mages,
it wouldn't be exaggerating to call them the most powerful mages on the entire continent, not to mention the Empire.
However, "first-class mages"
are only "mages".
That already makes us a poor match.
For the longest time, the Empire has actively adapted magic for their military affairs.
If we look at this another way,
it means they have been building legions of mages trained for war.
These folk, and I don't mean it figuratively or anything,
have enough might to topple an entire country.
I see.
So if a rebellion ever occurs, it would spell bad news.
The "Shadow Warriors"...
The "Holy Wand Court"...
There are countless "rumours" of secret military agencies that exist
which are specialized in countering magic to prevent any rebellions.
And one of them that the Empire has officially recognized the existence of
is the Special Forces of Magic that is tasked with suppressing insurrections.
I'm guessing to be a visible deterrent force.
I think it is more accurate to say that it would be strategically advantageous
to have an organization on the front stage that specializes in dealing with mages.
The Special Forces of Magic also serves as a division of the Empire's national defences.
It's nigh impossible for an invading party not to have any mages, after all.
Regardless of insurrection or war,
human or demon,
they are simply and purely hounds trained to be experts at hunting mages.
...I sense enmity from you.
How so?
The way Four-Eyes speaks
practically sounds as if you were being persecuted.
Well that's actually true, is it not?
Since we are being persecuted as we speak.
ドォ
...I guess we can't talk this out, then.
Four-Eyes, are you still alive~?
Its scale is intriguing, but what is with this manipulation speed?
KNOCK
KNOCK
Four-Eyes—who excels at Mana Detection—could not react in time.
Looks like telekinesis, based on this magical power.
I guess it's a standard gravity attack.
Even I didn't notice until after the impact,
which means this is probably not a simple spell.
"Talk this out"—
That's truly not a good impression to give off.
I have already issued numerous warnings for you fugitives to surrender.
You are the ones who chose to ignore them.
So that's what those irritating mana signals meant.
Four-Eyes, you should diligently warn me about critical factors like this.
...I see.
So you are not a person of the Empire then.
That's good to know.
In that case, allow me to state verbally.
Surrender now.
Otherwise, I will suppress you by force.
...That said, Four-Eyes, are you really all right?
...No reply, huh?
Maybe he fled already.
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ザッ
ッ
I guess this means
I'm free to do whatever I want then.
You're rather bloodthirsty.
It has been a long time since I encountered resistance.
—It is time to commence the suppression.
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...Something doesn't feel right, after all.
I don't know why, but there is a slight gap between the telekinesis and his flow of mana.
Perhaps that's why Four-Eyes misread the timing of impact.
—Nonetheless, as long as you evade using sight, you can fight without issue.
I cannot detect the special traits of his magic.
And even though it is certainly intriguing,
by the time I realize its true nature, I'll already fall behind.
That's the hunch I'm getting.
I guess I'll finish you before I realize then.
Target Binding Magic
Sollganie
ドドドドドド
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...I can't manipulate my mana.
This must be powerful restraint magic.
What are its usage conditions?
What do you think they are?
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...So now I can move.
Which means...
ドッ
A counter-attack...?
He shouldn't have been able to cast any spells.
...I see.
What I can think of for possible conditions would be—
Having someone in your sights.
Or seizing someone using Mana Detection.
...Well, as long as I know this much,
I guess it doesn't matter either way.
It is one of these two.
That's the best I could narrow it down to.
ジッ
ブツッ
ブツン
ズシャ
...You're doing this, aren't you?
What in the world did you do?
...I can't see.
And even my Mana Detection is...
One suspect suppressed.
I take it the other is laying in hiding?
It'll make my job easier if he comes to your rescue, though.
He was incredibly fearful of your Special Forces of Magic.
Just what kind of evil deeds did you people commit?
Why do you think I acted violently?
He must be long gone by now.
You shouldn't try to buy time.
He's still nearby.
Perhaps he is awaiting a chance to attack...
Hmph,
キィ
so he hasn't fled yet.
Even though he should've quickly done so already.
That reminds me, Four-Eyes,
although you're a coward and have a poor personality,
ドッ
ゴッ
ザッ
I recall you hated forsaking people.
ザッ
...How twisted he is, that Four-Eyes.
Revolting.
What a surprise...
Despite being completely blind...
Four-Eyes.
I've created an opening.
Considering your skill, you should be able to blow this fellow's head off, right?
...I honestly don't want to sound like a scoundrel
saying something like this, but—
Stop hiding and surrender immediately.
Any unwise action and I will slay this lady.
Knowing that you had observed this battleground,
I'm sure you realize that this matter has already been concluded from the beginning
and that it is already too late to save this situation.
It will be your fault that this lady dies.
I count three of you.
Four-Eyes.
...Übel.
I'm sorry, but I can't take that gamble.
カラン
Please get on.
Looks like the clean-up will be total hell.
Vice-Captain Kanone's probably going to throw a fit.
As long as she accomplishes a remarkable deed, she won't be angry.
The street lights don't have a single scratch on them...
What kind of standard is this?
Weg,
do you believe stone can be severed into pieces?
No idea,
but my home village did have a quarry to cut and extract stone.
Perhaps she witnessed something similar to that as well.
KNOCK
KNOCK
Also, it was made with iron.
Along with the rope on your hands.
You two better not act violent.
Even I cannot break through this wagon.
How very kind of you.
It's iron, he says.
Übel, what does this look like to you?
What does it look like to you, Four-Eyes?
...Could it be that you're still blind?
Just tell me.
...Well it's rope.
How it feels...
You can tell by how it feels on your wrists, can't you?
So that was possible, then.
...I knew it,
you're in your real body right now.
Right.
It takes time to create doppelgängers.
I never expected to get crushed by a building instantly, after all.
Ow...!
ゴッ
Why didn't you attack him?
Even though we were so close to victory.
...We were?
That's just your interpretation.
That man was seriously inclined to kill you.
Hmph,
if you say so.
And you figured you wouldn't mind even if you both went down.
The lives of people as well as your own,
why do you treat them so lightly?
Had you not chosen to fight,
we could've both gotten away.
It seems you don't want me to die, in the end.
I should've just attacked after all...
Say, Four-Eyes.
What?

Above: Refer back to Chapter 41 for move details

I have to stay home everyday to care of my sick mother, so I pass the time translating for fun. Usually only 1-2 people donate per chapter at best, so if you enjoyed this chapter, please kindly consider donating or subbing to my Patreon at KireiCake.com. All proceeds are used to offset her medical fees and every bit counts. Thank you very much ^ ^

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